

CHILDREN & DISASTERS NEWSLETTER



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FROM THE FIELD

Texas High School Teen CERT Wins Award

As part of the 2016 FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Awards, the Mart High School Teen Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) received the Outstanding Achievement in Youth Preparedness Award. Since 2012 the program has grown into a formative and practical experience for students in Mart, TX, a town of 2,200 people without its own emergency medical services (EMS). Nearly 25 percent of the Mart High School students have been certified in disaster preparedness and advanced medical training—and they can respond quickly to medical emergencies before EMS from surrounding areas arrive.

Student trainings include ride-alongs with professional responders, hands-on activities in the classroom, and deployments to provide relief in the community and surrounding areas when their help is needed. On November 30, 2015, seven volunteers from the CERT program, including FEMA Region VI Youth Preparedness Council member Chandler Villa, traveled to Marlin, TX, to assist other local CERT volunteers who were helping residents recover from a catastrophic water system failure that resulted in loss of water services to the city. During this incident alone, the Mart student volunteers logged 126 hours of service.

"I am so proud of my CERT and how hard they have worked this past year. They continue to be involved with our newest members this school year, helping to teach classes and actively participating in our community and school events. As seniors, they have a lot on their plates, but they never stop being a team," said Elizabeth Buffy Waldie, EMT-B, CERT Instructor and Foreign Language Chair, Mart High School.



Mart High School CERT members helped distribute water bottles to residents in Marlin, TX.

FEMA recognized the team's service during an award ceremony at the White House on September 13, 2016. To find out about other award winners, go to www.ready.gov/citizen-corps/citizen-corps-awards.

New York County Selected for Resilience Research

The [Resilient Children/Resilient Communities Initiative](#)—a research project at Columbia University's [National Center for Disaster Preparedness](#) that receives funding through a \$2 million grant from GlaxoSmithKline in partnership with [Save the Children](#)—selected the [Community Resilience Coalition](#) (CRC) in Putnam County, NY, as one of two sites in the U.S. to identify the best practices for keeping children safe in emergencies, increasing awareness of the unique needs of children, and strengthening the capabilities of the community to meet those needs.

Agencies from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors make up the CRC. "We are fortunate in Putnam County to have first responders and highway departments that take the safety and well-being of all our residents, young and old, very seriously," said County Executive Mary Ellen Odell. "Children are among the most vulnerable of our community. Anything and everything that we can do to ensure their safety and resilience in times of crisis, we must do."

**PREPARED
PUTNAM,
RESILIENT
PUTNAM.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join FEMA Corps to Save Lives



FEMA and the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) are seeking new applicants for [FEMA Corps](#) members who want to make a difference.

FEMA Corps, a track of AmeriCorps' National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC), is a national service program for 18–24 year olds interested in emergency management and passionate about disaster relief.

FEMA Corps members serve with a team for 10 months and travel the country working directly with FEMA on emergency management-related projects.

FEMA Corps members receive a stipend for living expenses, and their housing, food, and transportation costs are covered during their 10 months of service. Upon completion, Corps members also receive an education award of at least \$5,730—this can be used to pay for future school costs or to pay off qualified student loans.

Applications are being accepted until November 1, 2016. To learn more and apply, please visit www.AmeriCorps.gov/FEMACorps and email anccc@cns.gov with any questions.

Take Part in ShakeOut

More than 19 million people across the U.S. and its territories have registered to participate in the 2016 [Great ShakeOut](#). On October 20 at 10:20 a.m. local time, participants will drop, cover, and hold on as part of the annual earthquake drill.

Great ShakeOut earthquake drills are an annual opportunity for people in homes, schools, and organizations to practice what to do during earthquakes and to improve preparedness.



Visit www.shakeout.org for resources and tips for [how you can participate](#) in your own drill or a drill in your community.

Earn Up to \$2 Million in Grant Funding for Youth Activities



The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) is currently seeking applicants for the [Performance Partnership Pilots \(P3\), CFDA Number 84.420A, grant opportunity](#). The lead applicant must be a State, local, or tribal government entity, represented by a Chief Executive, such as a governor, mayor, or other elected leader, or the head of a State, local, or tribal agency. Grantees will receive up to \$2 million to fund activities for youth.

Applications for grants under the P3 program must be submitted electronically via www.grants.gov. Through this site, you can download a copy of the [application package](#). You'll complete it offline and then upload and submit your materials. Applicants may not email an electronic copy of a grant application.

For details about eligibility and selection criteria, please see the [official application notice](#) published in the Federal Register. Applications will be accepted until October 31, 2016.

Connect with Physicians about Emergency Prep

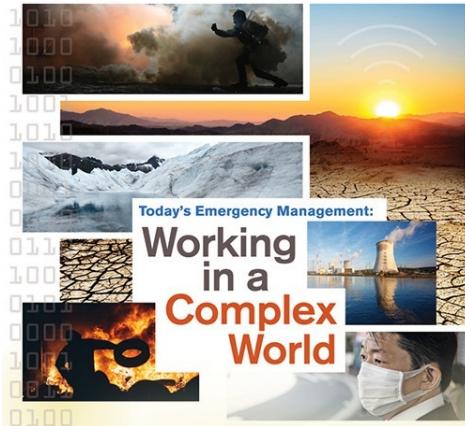


The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) invites you to experience its 2016 National Conference & Exhibition in San Francisco on October 22–25, 2016. The conference will feature more than 350 educational sessions, including practical hands-on learning and networking. It will also host the largest pediatric technical exhibit of its kind.

Conference topics include an interactive discussion with the lead for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Children's Preparedness Unit on emerging infectious disease outbreaks like Zika. A wide variety of hands-on workshops will teach participants how to place casts and splints, among other technical skills. To learn more and register for the conference, visit www.aapexperience.org.

Register Now for the IAEM 64th Annual Conference & EMEX

It's not too late to register! This year's event will be held in Savannah, Georgia, October 14–19. This is the premiere emergency management event of the year. For those that arrive early, IAEM offers pre-conference [training courses](#). There's also still space available to participate in the behind-the-



scenes [tour](#) of the Georgia Ports Authority. The conference will feature many dynamic speakers in more than 55 breakout sessions, plus [keynotes](#) with W. Craig Fugate and Lee Feldman, and plenary sessions with Ted Koppel, Leonard Marcus, and Avish Parashar. For more information, view the [online program](#) and [register](#) today. If you can't attend in person, buy a [Digital Pass](#) to view livestreamed and recorded sessions.

RESOURCES

Know How to Respond



The PBS Kids® series [“When Something Scary Happens”](#) features videos with its popular children’s characters Arthur and Daniel Tiger to help children communicate their feelings about disasters and prepare with families and friends. The series also includes activities that children can do on their own or with an adult, including [“Draw Your Feelings”](#) and [“Emergency Supply Kit.”](#)

Parents and teachers can use the resources from PBS and other partners in youth preparedness, [UNICEF](#) and [Gryphon House](#), too.

Help Students Cope with Media Coverage



The [Disaster and Community Crisis Center](#) at the University of Missouri’s [Disaster Media Intervention](#) (DMI), a manual to help teachers and school staff guide students in coping with the psychological effects of media coverage after disasters like storms or earthquakes, or industrial accidents, terrorist attacks, or mass shootings. DMI’s three primary goals are to help encourage dialogue, establish a sense of safety, and develop coping skills.

The manual also has resources for adults. For example, fact sheets for [parents](#), [teachers](#), and [school staff](#) provide an overview of how media coverage of a disaster may affect students and

suggest strategies to use.

[Download](#) or print the DMI manual to help your students.

Dig into Preparedness



Created by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, [Fred the Preparedness Dog](#) leads youth in engaging activities for youth, like a [Preparedness Plan Activity Book](#), [quizzes](#) for kids 6–8 and 9–12, [fun facts](#) about natural disasters, and ways to boost [preparedness for your animals](#).

Fred also provides free resources for [parents](#), [partners](#), and [teachers](#) to help youth practice preparedness. [Fred's app](#) is designed for both iPhone and iPad, and it includes preparedness games. [Download the app](#) from the App Store today.

Get Floridians Ready for Disasters

In partnership with [IDEAS](#), the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) developed [Kids Get A Plan](#), a program for school-age children ages 5 to 12 years old. Youth can upload, showcase, and share posters and videos created for the annual FDEM [Severe Weather Awareness Week](#) contest.



The website also has interactive games, crafts, and stories with a cast of characters to help youth prepare for multiple hazards, including floods, hurricanes, lightning, tornadoes, and wildfires. The characters also teach practical tips for things like building an emergency kit.

Parents and teachers can download guides as well, including the [Family Emergency Plan](#), [The 30/30 Rule Guide](#), the [Turn Around Don't Drown Guide](#), and many others.

YOUTH SPOTLIGHT

Youth Leaders Get Creative for National Preparedness Month

FEMA's [Youth Preparedness Council](#) and Affirmers of the [National Strategy for Youth Preparedness](#) stepped up in September, creating videos to highlight emergency preparedness during National Preparedness Month.

Lead & Seed teams from the Millcreek School District in Erie



County, PA, took part in Save the Children's "[The Prep Step](#)." They performed the song and dance routine at playgrounds, schools, auditoriums, public festivals, and even on the banks of Lake Erie, as seasonal tourists watched with excitement. Check out their lively [video](#).

Other National Strategy Affirmers including The Center for Children with Incarcerated Parents of America, Camp Noah, Ready Girl of New York City Emergency Management, and the Corporation for National and Community Service joined Millcreek School District in creating a [collaborative video](#), in which they all show off their own versions of "The Prep Step."

The Youth Preparedness Council also joined the effort, creating a video to encourage families to make a family emergency communication plan. Check out the [video](#) and get started on your [family](#)

[emergency communication plan](#) today.

Nebraska Teen Leads Civil Air Patrol Squadron in Trainings



In communities across the Nation, Civil Air Patrol members train to respond to disasters. Based in Lincoln, NE, Hannah Compton, a senior at Milford High School in Milford, NE, serves as cadet commander of the 155th Composite Squadron, Nebraska Wing of the Civil Air Patrol. The squadron prepares regularly with senior members for disaster relief

missions. Cadets also practice search and rescue tactics, first aid, and communication and radio skills.

Every few months, squadrons from the Nebraska Wing participate in training exercises that simulate real world situations. These have included responding to a grain elevator explosion, locating a downed aircraft, and triaging victims following a tornado. Compton and her squadron also participate in Extended Community Outreach training, which gives them the chance to help emergency managers, first responders, and emergency medical services with disaster relief missions in the surrounding rural communities. Get more information at www.capvolunteernow.com.

CONTACT US

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